Aerandria's First Anniversary!

WE'VE GONE THROUGH BLOOD-SUCKING HOTTIES, PRINCES WHO CAN TURN INTO VARIOUS ANIMALS, CUTE DEMONS, PERVERTED GHOSTS, MASOCHIST WITCHES, HORNY TEENAGERS (AND ANIMALS FOR THAT MATTER) TWISTED VILLAINS AND EVEN MORE TWISTED HEROES NOSEBLEED SESSIONS AND THAT PESKY EMOTION CALLED LOVE YET HERE WE STILL ARE CELEBRATING OUR ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN GIVING YOU VARIOUS SCANLATIONS TO READ WE'VE SURVIVED CONSTANT WHINING AND POKING ABOUT NEW RELEASES WITH ALL OF OUR HAIR AND BLOOD PRESSURE STILL INTACT

SO WE'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FROM THE STAFFERS (OLD AND NEW), SPONSORS, RABID FANGIRLS AND FANBOYS, TO THOSE SEEMINGLY HARMLESS LURKERS AND LEECHERS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT ACTS OF KINDNESS, WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND FREQUENT RAMPAGES THAT CRASH OUR SERVERS WE COULDN'T HAVE MADE IT A YEAR WITHOUT YOU

SO HERE WE ARE, GIVING YOU A RELEASE EVERY DAY FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF JUNE! YOU GUYS ARE SO SPOILED! XD

HERE'S TO MORE YEARS AND MORE SCANLATIONS FOR AERANDRIA!

HAPPY FIRST ANNIVERSARY, AERANDRIA!!!

RAWR
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
Can I help you?
What can I do to help?
Fan Girl
It's not like YOU helped out any.
We don't have enough translators or editors
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter
Visit our website for details
http://www.aerandria.net

Aerandria

one more year

Akaku Saku Koe Volume 01 Chapter 05

Source: michex Proofreader: Daniiie

Translator: Akiko Editor: claymaven

Quality Control: Adrift

WHY is the sound effect for wind the same as rain....WHY?! (But I'll bear with it because Karashima and Kokubu are so cute.)

-Adrift

http://aerandria.net
#aerandria@irc.irchighway.net

ZAAA
Akaku Saku Koe

Ah..
It's Kawaguchi-san.
Kawa...
COUGH
My voice won't come out...

COUGH
..Dad's there, too.
Z
Z
Z

ZA
A
A
A
KARASHIMA-KUN

ZAAA
I WAS GOING TO WAKE YOU UP SOON
KARASHIMA-KUN? YOU'RE UP
THIS IS...
SATOMI-SAN?
PAIN
?!
AAA
IT'S THE STORAGE BEHIND THE STAIRS ON THE FOURTH FLOOR
HAA!

IT'S MY MISTAKE FOR AIMING AT HIS CHEST
HE USUALLY WEARS A BULLET-PROOF VEST
AH!
KAWAGUCHI-SAN WAS
CREAK
EH
HOW ABOUT KOKUBU-SAN?
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I MISSED
AH,
SHE WASN'T WEARING A VEST
WHAT DO YOU WANT...?
WHY WOULD YOU...

JUST LIKE SO
—THIS REALLY BUGS ME.
I VIVIDLY REMEMBER YOU, BUT....
YOU DON'T EVEN RECOGNIZE ME.
—LAST TIME WE MET,
I WAS THE ONE TIED TO THE CHAIR?
I CAME HERE —
TO TALK TO YOU

ZA
A
A
Karashima didn't go...
to Akitsu Department Store for shopping.
He went all the way, far from home, by bus and train...
to see the building his father constructed...
AAA
Then he got involved in the incident...
The incident planned by Satomi
KOKUBU-SAN, ARE YOU HURT?

KAWA-GUCHI-SAN
...I WAS WORRIED EVER SINCE WE GOT A REPORT FROM UNIT THREE ABOUT A STOLEN UNIT JACKET...
IF THEY DON'T HEAR FROM ME BY FOUR O'CLOCK, BACKUP WILL COME.
...THEY SHOULD ALREADY BE HERE
WAH! KAWAGUCHI-SAN YOU SHOULD STAY DOWN...
I'M ALL RIGHT. I HAVE A BULLET-PROOF VEST UNDER-NEATH!
BUT...
I'M ALL RIGHT
IT IS ALL RIGHT

AAA
AA
SATOMI AND KARASHIMA MET FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE AKITSU DEPARTMENT STORE HOSTAGE INCIDENT FOUR YEARS AGO
—HAVING LOST CONSCIOUSNESS BECAUSE OF KARASHIMA'S VOICE. SATOMI WAS ARRESTED. LATER, IN THE INVESTIGATION ROOM, HE STRUGGLED AND INJURED AN OFFICER
HE WAS TIED TO A CHAIR AND CONFINED IN A ROOM
At that time...
The two seemed to have exchanged words,
a very...
brief exchange of words...
By some ill luck, he ended up opening the door of the room
Karashima-kun was at the headquarters to give a statement about the incident

✱About fan letters✱

I read and cherish each and every fan letter I receive. A love letter to a character, a letter to confide a deep secret, a letter with such joy that it gives me a "high"... Some also note that they have never written a fan letter before. These kinds of remarks move me greatly, for I feel the courage and effort to write such letters. There is one person who keeps writing to me since my first story "Hana Doroboo" (Flower Thief) was published (I am suddenly think of this person as my soul mate.) Thank you very much, everyone! Everything — from being able to contribute my manga to magazines to getting my comics published — I owe that to you all who answered the surveys and who wrote letters to me. For those of you who read my story for the first time, please gather your courage and drop a word to the author when you read a story that moves you.

1/4 The End

EXCEPT FOR HIS EYES
THE ROOM WAS DARK SO SATOMI'S FACE WASN'T QUITE VISIBLE
THAT'S WHY HE DOESN'T RECALL OFFENDERS' FACES MUCH
—SINCE THAT TIME KARASHIMA-KUN HAS BEEN SCARED OF STARING INTO THE EYES OF THE OFFENDERS
—SATOMI'S EYES
—WERE VERY GENTLE, HE SAID
...as if they could see through everything.

He felt like...
"This person will understand me without words."
— THERE'S NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT.
I CAN ORDER YOU TO UNTIE ME.
YOUR WORDS WILL NOT WORK ON ME NOW.
I'M WEARING A SOUND MODULATOR. MY FRIEND MADE IT FOR ME.
FOUR YEARS AGO, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED... I'VE DONE SOME RESEARCH SINCE.
DON'T MOVE.
WHAT YOU TOLD ME THE LAST TIME WAS THE TRUTH, WASN'T IT?
JUST LIKE THAT.
YOU ONLY TOLD US.

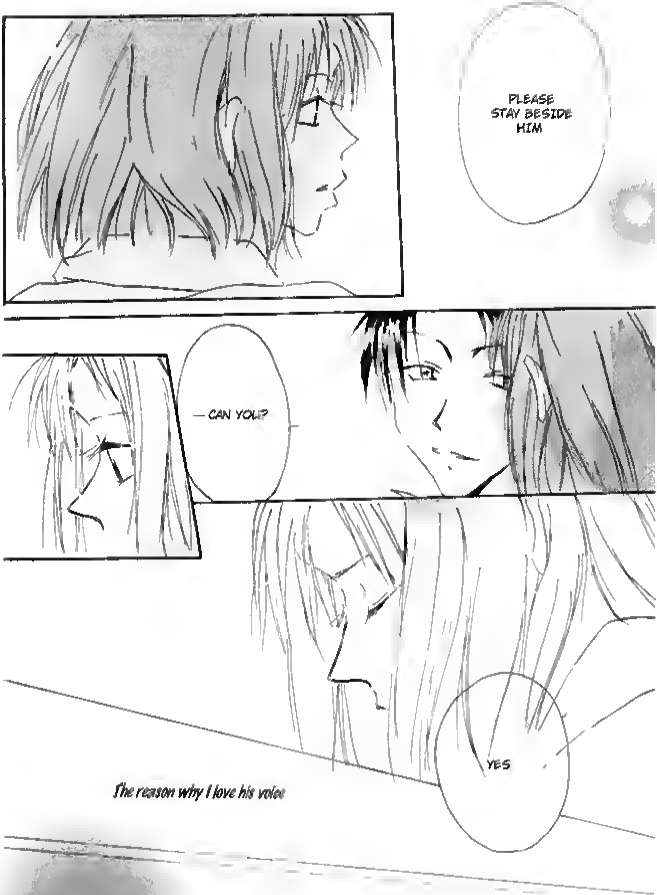
I CAME TO TAKE YOU WITH ME
I WANT YOUR VOICE
--I PLANNED THIS WHOLE THING
I LOOKED FOR GUYS WHO KNEW YOU AND WHO WANTED REVENGE ON YOU.
THE STORM GAVE ME THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO SEPARATE YOU FROM KAWAGUCHI-SAN AND THE OTHERS.
THIS WAS A TEST TO SEE YOUR TRUE POWER AND ABILITY TO HANDLE THE SITUATION
I WAS HERE TO GIVE YOU SUPPORT. BUT YOU DIDN'T NEED ANY.
...WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
YOU "PASSED" THE TEST.
I NEED YOU.
HOW CAN I CONVINCE YOU TO COME WITH ME?

I UNDERSTOOD SOMETHING TODAY.
YOU ARE MISTAKEN.
EH?
BECAUSE OF YOUR VOICE, YOU SEEM TO HOLD YOURSELF BACK MORE THAN OTHERS
BUT THAT'S NOT HOW IT SHOULD BE
YOU
ARE NOT HERE TO BE HELD BACK FROM DOING THINGS YOU CAN'T
YOU ARE HERE TO ACCOMPLISH THINGS OTHERS CANNOT

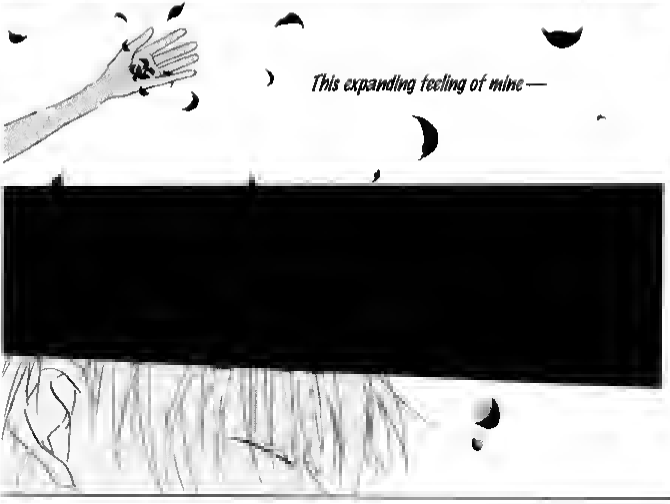
LET'S GO TOGETHER.
WE WILL HAVE FUN.
I'M THE ONE WHO WILL SET YOU FREE
AAAAAAA
—SATOMI. IN FACT, CAN SEE THROUGH TO THE DARKNESS THAT OTHERS HIDE WITHIN.

ANYTHING IN HIS WAY GETS ELIMI-NATED
HE LETS PEOPLE DROWN IN THE DARKNESS AND HAS FUN AT IT
HE THEN SLITHERS IN EXPANDS IT AND MANIPU-LATES IT
AH, THE TEACHERS WERE CONFINED IN THE LIBRARY STORAGE
WE HAVE BACKUP. THEY ARE ON THE MAIN FLOOR NOW.
—THE ADULTS WERE IN THE WAY, HUH
SAKA-MOTO-KUN
AH KAWA-GUCHI-SAN ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU HAVEN'T SNAPPED OR ANY-THING?
OPEN
YEAH... WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO FIND THEM QUICKLY.
HE'S THE WORST KIND.
—I SEE PLEASE STAY HERE WITH KOKUBU-SAN.
WHAT? KAWAGUCHI-SAN I, TOO, WANT TO...
IT IS MY DUTY TO GET HIM BACK THAT'S ABOUT ALL I'M GOOD AT
SIT TIGHT WITH ME, KOKUBU. I'M THE LEAST USEFUL ONE HERE
I WILL BRING HIM BACK FOR SURE

KARASHIMA IS "COLORLESS," THUS HE TENDS TO GET STAINED BY THE "COLORS" OF OTHERS.
TO PUT IT SIMPLY,
BESIDE SEIJI KAWAGUCHI, HE IS A TOUGH GUY.
WHEN HE IS BESIDE ME, HE BECOMES SARCASTIC.
WHEN HE IS WITH YOU, HE BECOMES GENTLE.
KOKUBU,
I WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING.
WHEN KARASHIMA RETURNS,
ZAAA
—FEELS LIKE I'M BEING TRICKED
I WANT TO DO SOMETHING TOO
AAA


PLEASE STAY BESIDE HIM
— CAN YOU?
YES
The reason why I love his voice
is because it is the voice of the "one I love."

I finally understood.
It was so obvious.
The reason why
I'm so interested...
The reason why I get excited
talking with him...
The reason why it hurts when
I'm not with him...
The reason why his smile makes
me feel like crying...


This expanding feeling of mine —

Karashima-kun...
KARASHIMA-KUN?
—AT THAT TIME,
I UNDERSTOOD NOTHING.
ANYTHING WOULD DO,
ANYONE WOULD DO,
As long as I was needed.
BUT IT IS DIFFERENT NOW.

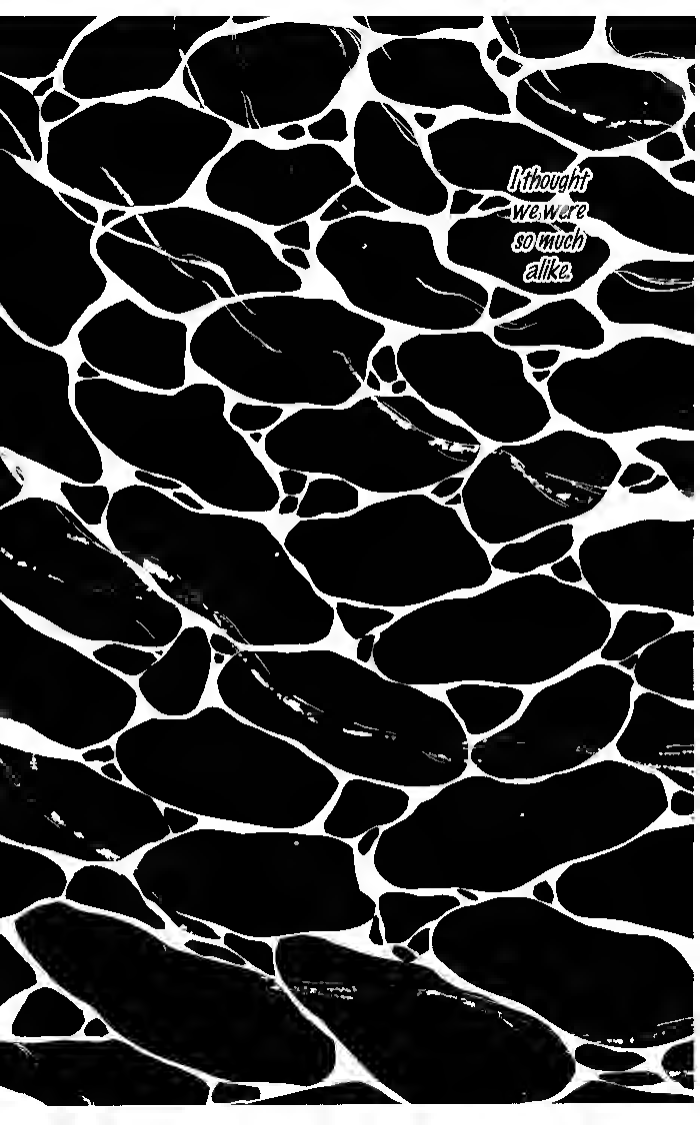
I DON'T KNOW, BUT
IS THERE ANYONE WHO UNDER-STANDS YOU?
THERE IS SOMEONE I WANT TO BE UNDER-STOOD BY
SOMEONE I WANT TO UNDER-STAND
IS THAT SO ?
I CAN'T GO WITH YOU
ZAA A A A

HOW DISAP-POINTING
...WHAT ABOUT YOU SATOMI-SAN?
SATOMI -SAN DO YOU HAVE...?
...HOW VERY DISAP-POINTING
WAKE UP.

?!
WHA?!
Stuffed in the storage while he's out...
Unless I tell him to "Wake up."
"What happened to the man you caught?"
HOLD SATOMI DOWN.

SMASH
KLANG
DRAG
!!
CLINK
The sound modulator...

Why is it...
You and I


I thought
we were
so much
alike.

BAM
BAM
CREAK
CREAK
CLUMP
BANG
ZAAAAAAAAA

The scene was so unreal...
He looked like some unknown monster.

his hand was slightly shaking.

The person I met, at that time, was just a little boy.

"Let's go back."
KOKUBU-SAN, ARE YOU HURT?
ZAAA AA AA A A

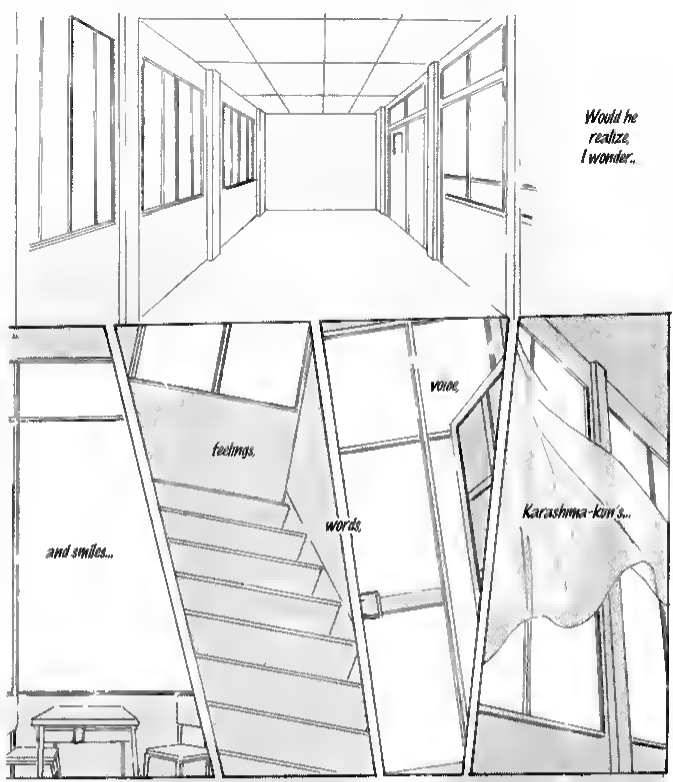
NO
SAKAMOTO-KUN SAVED ME
AH... IS THAT SO...?
I'VE GOT TO THANK HIM, TOO...
...KARASHIMA-KUN,
ARE YOU OK?

AAAA
THE SKY WAS DEEP AND BLUE
- JUST NOW,
I HAD A DREAM.
- EH?
THE SOUND OF THE RAIN BECAME THE SOUND OF THE WIND BLOWING THROUGH THE GRASS.
THE FIELD OF GRASS WAS FAR STRETCHING.
TRANSLATOR NOTE: THE SAME SOUND IS USED TO REPRESENT RAIN POURING AND WIND BLOWING

AAAAAA

It was a gentle and brilliant illusion...
Like he was trying to avoid my question...
"Karashima avoids having someone special"
"You'll get hurt staying beside him."
You are right, Aidomi
Karashima-kun would not share his pain with me.

I SAW YOU IN MY DREAM, KOKUBU-SAN
Still,
would my feelings reach him one day?
If I stay beside him like this,
My feelings for him keep growing.



are overwhelming me to the point that it almost hurts.

This blossoming
feeling of mine...

Endnote

Thank you very much.

I have extra pages here, so let me go over the main charachters a little. Please read this at the end since it might give away the story.

Kokubu

My favorite kind of girl to draw is a practical pro-active sharp, and cool type. However, together with Karashima I wanted to create a middle-aged-couple-like atmosphere with a more subtle character. Her hair is toned since black seems too settled and white is the same as Karashima's. "Her weakness is her strength," was what I was aiming for.

Karashima

He has no initiative in everyday situations, so it is a hustle to bring the story forward. His hair style and eye expressions are hard to draw. It takes triple the time to draw him than to draw Kokubu. The images for him are "silver fox," "transparent," and "teasable." He is somewhat lazy, but childish at heart. Hanging with his friends, he'd lose himself to the fun. What he is really thinking is a mystery, even to the author.

Similar to Kinako* with a pinch of salt. (*parched bean flour)

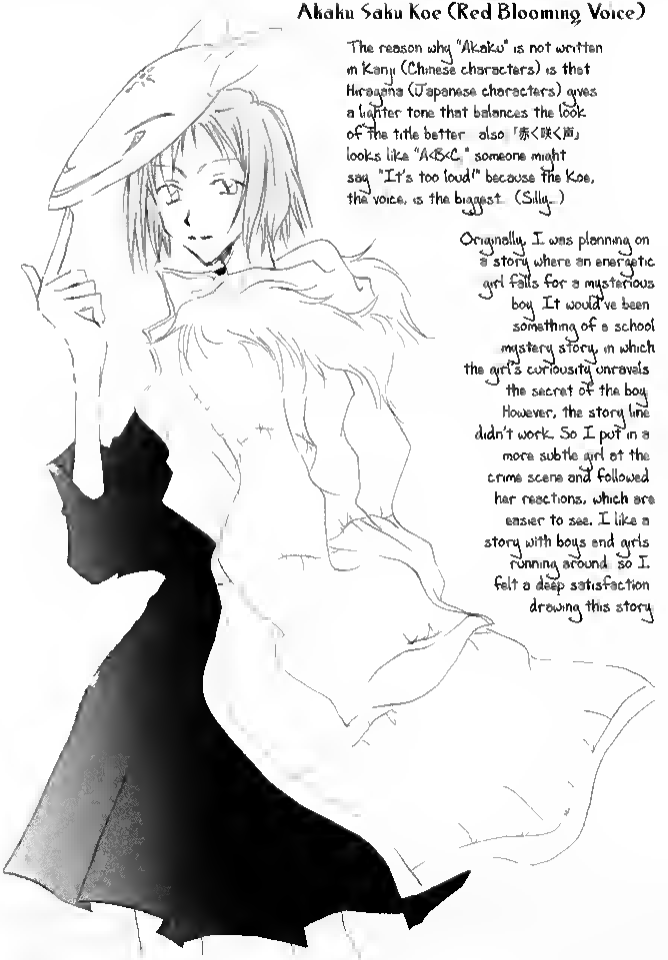
Sakamoto

With him, it is easy to move the story forward. His "to the point" and active personality pushes the two laid-back main characters on. Readers either love him or hate him. His views on Karashima, Kokubu, and Kawaguchi are probably the most interesting ones to explore. The images for him are "cool and high-tensioned" with "unexpectedly droopy eyes."

Kawaguchi

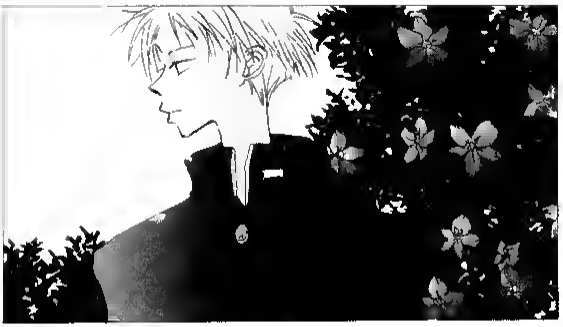
In the original script, he was way older. But that, together with the bad guys, made the average age of the characters too old (and his face too scary.) so I settled as it is. My idea was to give him a "wolfish" look when he is beside the "foxy" Karashima, though he somewhat lacks intensity as a wolf.. In the end, I think that ambiguity gave him more of a shady charm.

「あかく咲く声」
Akaku Saku Koe (Red Blooming Voice)



The reason why "Akaku" is not written in Kanji (Chinese characters) is that Hiragana (Japanese characters) gives a lighter tone that balances the look of the title better. also 「赤く咲く声」 looks like "A<B<C." someone might say "It's too loud!" because the Koe, the voice, is the biggest. (Silly.)

Originally, I was planning on a story where an energetic girl falls for a mysterious boy. It would've been something of a school mystery story, in which the girl's curiousity unravels the secret of the boy. However, the story line didn't work. So I put in a more subtle girl at the crime scene and followed her reactions, which are easier to see. I like a story with boys and girls running around, so I felt a deep satisfaction drawing this story.



This story grew so much from the original one-shot version. It's like a dream.

I would like to express my gratitude to my parents, who supported me to become a manga artist, my big sister, who's always there, aunty Taguchi, family members and friends. Thank you all very much.

To Ishihara-sama, Tanaka Meka-sama, Taiyo Tomao-sama*, I always troubled you all. Thank you so much.

For the fans who wrote me letters, please have patience with me. I'm still in the process of replying to you. Thank you so much.

Lastly, to those who read the story until the end, I really want to thank you very much. Ah, I wish I had better words.

I look forward to the future opportunities and will keep drawing hard to provide you with more interesting stories. Until then,

My greatest gratitude,
Midorikawa Yuki

Akaku Saku Koe Volume 1/End

*TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: I GUESSED AT NAME PRONUCIATIONS. NAMES ARE IN FAMILY NAME-FIRST NAME ORDER ON THIS PAGE.

〈収録作品メモ〉
●あかく咲く声　平成11年　ララ　[illegible]　11日号掲載
●あとがき　描きおろし

花とゆめCOMICS
あかく咲く声①

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